

Customer No.: 31561
Docket No.: 13718-US-PA
Application No.: 10/711,862

REMARKS

Claims 3 and 5 have been amended. Support for the changes to claims can be found from the specification, and the drawings.

Present Status of the Application

The Office Action rejected claims 5-7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Moon (US 2002/0180680).

The Office Action also rejected claims 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moon.

The Office Action also further rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ha 2004/0113923 in view of Moon.

Discussion of 35 U.S.C. 102 Rejections

The Office Action rejected claims 5-7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Moon.

In response thereto, Applicants have amended independent claim 5, and hereby otherwise traverse these rejections. As such, the present invention as set forth in claim 5, as currently amended, and its dependent claims 6 and 7, is submitted to be novel and unobvious over Moon, or any of the other cited references, taken alone or in combination, and thus should be allowed.

Claim 5, as currently amended, now contains a step (b): "selecting one from a plurality of gamma voltage generators, each of which being adapted for providing a predetermined gamma characteristic curve, for providing a gamma characteristic curve

Customer No.: 31561
Docket No.: 13718-US-PA
Application No.: 10/711,862

according to said analysis signal" that is neither taught, disclosed, nor suggested by Moon.

Moon teaches: "[T]he output control voltage VIN is directly or inversely proportional to the determined brightness degree (paragraph [0053] lines 8-9)", and "[I]n case the gray scale voltage generation unit 220 receives a control voltage directly proportional to the brightness degree, it increases the positive gray scale voltage in proportion to the control voltage while decreasing the negative gray scale voltage in inverse proportion to the control voltages. (paragraph [0054] lines 6-11)". Therefore, the gamma voltages of Moon are provided in a proportional or inverse proportional manner to the control voltage, which is distinct from the claimed invention, requiring a step of "selecting one from a plurality of gamma voltage generators, each of which being adapted for providing a predetermined gamma characteristic curve, for providing a gamma characteristic curve according to said analysis signal".

Applicants submit the claimed limitation of step (b) as currently amended is neither taught, disclosed, nor suggested by Moon, or any of the other cited references, taken alone or in combination. Therefore, claim 5, as currently amended, and its dependent claims 6 and 7, are submitted to be novel and unobvious over the foregoing cited references, and thus should be allowed.

Discussion of 35 U.S.C. 103 Rejections

The Office Action also rejected claims 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moon.

In response thereto, Applicants submit that claim 8 depends on allowable independent claim 5, and thus should also be allowed.

Customer No.: 31561
Docket No.: 13718-US-PA
Application No.: 10/711,862

The Office Action also further rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ha 2004/0113923 in view of Moon.

In response thereto, Applicants hereby otherwise traverse these rejections. As such, Applicants submit claims 1-4 are novel and unobvious over Ha and Moon, taken alone or in combination, and thus should be allowed.

With respect to claim 1, as originally filed, recites in part:

A dynamic level-adjustment compensation circuit ... comprising:

an analyzing unit used to analyze the gray-level distribution of said dynamic image signal and output an analysis signal according to the analysis result;

a plurality of gamma voltage generators, each of which produces a gamma voltage determined by a gamma characteristic curve; and

a selector electrically connected to said analyzing unit and said gamma voltage generators, wherein said selector is suited for selecting one of said gamma voltage generators according to said analysis signal and said selected gamma voltage generator outputs said corresponding gamma voltage.

In rejecting claim 1, the Examiner recites Ha as a primary reference in teaching "an analyzing unit ... and output an analysis signal according to the analysis result", "a plurality of gamma voltage generators, each of which produces a gamma voltage determined by a gamma characteristic curve", and "a selector ...". The Examiner also admitted that "Ha fails to explicitly teach 'Analyzing the gray-level distribution of said dynamic image signal and outputting the result'". The Examiner further cited Moon as a secondary reference in teaching this missed limitation and contended: "Moon teaches a

Customer No.: 31561
Docket No.: 13718-US-PA
Application No.: 10/711,862

system and method of analyzing an image signal to determine the brightness upon that determination result, changing the gamma characteristic curve used".

However, Applicants submit that Ha cannot be modified by Moon in arriving at the claimed invention as set forth in claim 1, in that:

1. There is no reasonable expectation of success of the proposed modification. However, if as proposed by the Examiner to modify Ha by Moon's teaching provide the control unit of Ha to include a brightness determination unit as taught by Moon to enable Ha's selector to pick a gamma voltage set based not only on ambient light but the screen brightness, it leads to a contradiction when the brightness determination unit taught by Moon decides to provide a first gamma curve, while the user identified by Ha wants to select a second. Therefore, these two modes cannot be simultaneously employed therein.
2. Further, the proposed modification renders the prior art unsatisfactory for its intended purpose. As a solution of the foregoing discussed contradiction, only one mode of determining gamma curve, either by ambient brightness/user's choice (Ha's teaching) or by screen brightness (Moon's teaching). The former is Ha's invention which has been admitted as failing to teach each and every limitation of the claimed invention, and the latter renders the Ha unsatisfactory for its intended purpose of "to provide an apparatus and method [for generating gamma voltage] to adaptively generate a gamma voltage set in accordance with a brightness of the outside" (Ha's paragraph [0014]).

Customer No.: 31561
Docket No.: 13718-US-PA
Application No.: 10/711,862

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that claims 1-4 are novel and unobvious over Ha, Moon or any of the other cited references, taken alone or in combination, and thus should be allowed.

Customer No.: 31561
Docket No.: 13718-US-PA
Application No.: 10/711,862

CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1-8 are in proper condition for allowance and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,

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